

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY



- ▲ Graduate recognition during Design Week included award certificates mixed in with visual memories of their journey!

- ◀ (Cover) Fifteen of the nineteen Spring 2021 graduates gathered on the South Plaza

Newsletter designed and published by Suzanne Bilbeisi at the Oklahoma State University School of Architecture. Printed on Mohawk Via Light Gray with a smooth finish. Bound at the Oklahoma State University School of Architecture. Original content authors retain copyright of their creative work.

©2021 The Oklahoma State University School of Architecture

Image Credits:

Pg 1: Kyle Bailey; Pgs 2, 5, 6, 9, 14, 15, 20/21, 32, 38, 40: Suzanne Bilbeisi; Pg 8: Carson Voelker; Pg 10-11: Paolo Sanza; Pg 12: Wes Kinsey; Pg 17: William Crawford (top), Melissa Russell (bottom); Pg 18: Scott Cornelius; Pg 20 (inset): Bethany Niles; Pg 23: Seung Ra; Pg 25: Brandon Parscale Photography; Pg 26: Tom Spector; Pg 29: Awilda Rodriguez-Carrion; Pg 31: Diana Anda; Pg 35: Chelsea Wooldridge (top), OSU Photographer Gary Lawson (bottom); Pg 38 (inset): Chandler Brown.



The vision of the School of Architecture is to empower students to make creative contributions in the cause of architecture.

The mission of the School of Architecture is to cultivate a collaborative learning community focused upon critical thinking and ethical responsibility. We embrace established fundamentals and encourage the exploration of emerging innovations in design and technology.

*Reflections
Vol. VIII Spring 2021*



Student News

Each year the Association for Schools of Construction (ASC) sponsors student design competitions, and the OSU interdisciplinary team achieved success - again! The team of four Construction Engineering Technology (CET) students, plus Stevie Glew (B ArchE fifth year student) and Madison Clark (B Arch third year student) took First Place in the Region 5 student competition. The team had 16 hours to design, cost estimate, and choreograph site construction - and then communicate that in a jury to professionals. The OSU Team has won the competition each of the past three years. Madison also won the "Best Presenter Award." The team is advised by Heather Yates of the CET faculty.

Alumnus Rand Elliott, FAIA and his wife Jeanette established an endowment to fund an annual "Elliott Prize for the Study of Light in Architecture." The goal of the prize is to encourage students to carefully examine not only the properties of light as a scientific endeavor, but also the transformative qualities of light as it activates space and changes the human experience. This year's Elliott Prize went to

Chandler Brown and Thao Hoang, for their proposal to create interactive displays within the architecture building. South facing windows became the host for the exhibit, which featured delicate prisms to illustrate the spectrum of colors produced.

Spring 2021 Architecture graduate Scott Cornelius was elected the national AIAS President and will start his term in Washington DC in July. OSU has had an alumnus as the national AIA President in 1982 with Robert Lawrence, FAIA, and now we can claim our first ever national AIAS President too!

Final Notes

Alumni - keep in touch! We're always glad to hear from you. Email with any questions or news: suzanne.bilbeisi@okstate.edu And, if you are not receiving the Alumni News Briefs by email, let us know. It's a two way street.

Lastly, please know that there are many ways to be involved with the OSU School of Architecture - alumni support is vital to our operations! Feel free to email Suzanne Bilbeisi with questions or ideas for how you can make a difference! Thank you!

REFLECTIONS

Hello!

The Spring 2021 semester is done! I am happy to share that at the OSU School of Architecture we successfully made it through this entire academic year of in-person learning - in no small measure because of our shared commitment to learning and helping one another. The vaccines are now available to all in our community, and so we look forward to more normal operations in Fall 2021.

It is my pleasure to bring this edition of the *Reflections* newsletter to you. Our goal for this issue is to communicate some of the ways we are going “*beyond the classroom and studio*” to deliver a top notch educational experience for our students. This semester, this has taken the form of unique project assignments, student organization extracurricular work, faculty research, and other enrichment activities that are a part of student life at the School of Architecture today.

Enjoy the articles and information within this newsletter, and please do keep in touch with us here at the School. We are proud of our current students and of the accomplishments of our alumni!

S. Bilbeisi

Suzanne Bilbeisi, AIA

Centennial Professor and
Head of the School of Architecture
suzanne.bilbeisi@okstate.edu

PS: To see examples of this semester's student work, check out our social media channels and end of year 'Virtual Open House' videos!

Website: <https://ceat.okstate.edu/arch/>

Facebook: Oklahoma State University School of Architecture

Instagram: @OkStateArch

Twitter: @OkStateArch

◀ Students review the Honors and Awards display during Design Week



Visible effects of light
on the adjacent floor

EXPLORATIONS WITHOUT TRAVEL

As all of us know, international travel was impossible in the summer of 2020, nor will it be possible for our programs in the summer of 2021. Most countries remain closed to tourists, even to students on an academic mission to learn about architecture and culture. A required component of the OSU Bachelor of Architecture degree plan is five weeks of a faculty-led study abroad curriculum. Since we have two classes of students (80 students in all) who did not have this opportunity due to the pandemic, as a faculty we had to get creative about what we could do to provide them with an enhanced world view. The faculty met to discuss possibilities and developed a plan. The plan is simple, consisting of additional enrichment projects attached to our existing upper level history and theory courses that already address learning about spaces and places in other cultures.

Students electing to take the History of Modern Italian Architecture, taught by Professor Sanza, examined individual buildings designed in that country in the 1920's to 1940's - their resultant work may become a gallery exhibit this fall. Other students enrolled in History of Asian Architecture with Professor Sarah Ra, and they were encouraged to further investigate the connection between architecture and nature found in Japanese, Korean, and Chinese architectural examples. Professor Moh Bilbeisi offered a third option with the History of Islamic Architecture course, but naturally Moh chose to provide the students with a journal assignment to document a *future travel experience* to an important work of architecture studied in his course. For example, one student was assigned the Suleymaniye Mosque in Istanbul. She was required to document not only the history and elements of the architecture itself, but also where it exists within the city, how she would travel to it, where she might stay, and what local food and drink should be experienced - as a journal exercise. Same for all of fourteen historic buildings in the Islamic world, one per student. Moh hopes that when future travel is possible, the students will have the confidence to embark on such an adventure and will keep exploring architecture.

We all long for travel and know that it will occur again in the near future, but for now we must simply continue exploring other cultures from our classrooms.

► Student's speculative journal work for the History of Islamic Architecture course

of most everything, including managing the Head! Chelsea was recognized in the recent CEAT Awards program as one of four CEAT staff receiving the "Sustained Outstanding Performance" award. Chelsea consistently goes above expectations to make sure the faculty can carry out the teaching and service mission of the school. Congratulations to Chelsea, she is very deserving of this CEAT recognition!

With Awilda Rodriguez away on sabbatical for the academic year, we were able to bring the talented OKC designer Adam Lanman on staff as adjunct. He taught first and second year studios, and an advanced graphics course.

Spring academic conferences were again held virtually, and many of our professors participated and contributed to a variety of national conferences throughout the semester. For the Annual Meeting of ACSA in March, Keith Peiffer had two peer-reviewed papers accepted which he presented; "Standard Details" which examined the role of the standard detail in professional practice and academia, and "The Rise and

Fall of Acoustical Panel Ceilings" which traced the changing attitudes towards the APC in architecture theory and popular culture. Jared Macken presented his peer-reviewed paper "Owen Luder's Town Centre of the 1960's". For the 2021 Architecture + Film Symposium Sarah Ra and Seung Ra presented a Pecha Kucha titled "Cultural Narratives Unfolded" which was based upon their experiences with video assignments during their travel study course in Asia. Several more faculty will be presenting scholarly papers at conferences this summer with organizations including the Building Technology Educators Society, American Society of Engineering Educators, the International Society for Philosophy and Architecture, and the ACSA/ EAAE Teachers Conference.

Jeanne Homer is slated to teach a short course for code officials, "Plan Review for Life Safety", this May with the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD.

Keith Peiffer and his wife Bekah expanded their family with the addition of a fourth child; son Tovin Isaac was born in February. Congratulations, Peiffers!



—

Last year we began an initiative to connect professional firms more directly with our student body by asking for coffee sponsorships for the school's coffee cart. It worked! For a modest fee, firms support the purchase of K-Cups and our students enjoy free coffee! The spring 2021 coffee sponsors were KKT, GH2, WRA, and DLR. Thank you! In exchange for the sponsorships, firms were recognized on our school's info TVs, and they could place their swag on the coffee cart. If your firm would like to get in on this, email architecture@okstate.edu and we will be happy to send you more info.

—

Student and faculty efforts aimed at addressing issues surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion in our college were recognized at the spring CEAT DEI Awards Ceremony. Sarah Ra received recognition as the Outstanding School of Architecture faculty, while students Hazel Nansubuga and Diana Anda, first year and fourth year respectively, were recognized for their efforts at the school level. Third year students Jacey Watson was noted as Outstanding Member of

NOMAS and Fernanda Navarro was selected as the Outstanding Member of the Society of Hispanic Engineers (though she is an architecture student!). Fourth year student Emily Tran was awarded Outstanding Student of CEAT, and Suzanne Bilbeisi was noted as Outstanding Faculty of CEAT in addressing DEI issues.

—

The official OSU graduation ceremonies for Spring 2021 went ahead, but looked a little different. The ceremony for CEAT was held in Boone Pickens Stadium, with the graduates in chairs, distanced, on the field. The university did not allow for smaller gatherings to take place at the department level, to our disappointment. So, on the last day of spring classes, we celebrated the eleven Architecture and eight AE graduates with an end of year gathering on our South Plaza (see pic on the cover of this Newsletter). Congratulations to the 2021 graduates!

—

The Caudill Fellowship recipient for 2021 is Erin Yen, who has plans to conduct her study in South America when travel opens again. For now, Erin and the 2020 Caudill awardee Julie

► Top: Faculty and students recognized in the 2021 CEAT DEI Awards ceremony
Bottom: President Burns Hargis visited the Comprehensive Design Studio this Spring.

A PLAZA NO MORE?

Keith Peiffer Assistant Professor of Architecture
Seung Ra Associate Professor of Architecture
Jared Macken Assistant Professor of Architecture

In late March an inflatable tube man danced in the parking lot of the Cimarron Plaza shopping center just off of North Boomer Road in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Nearby, architecture students from the School of Architecture's second year studio meandered across the asphalt. They gathered, socially distanced, around storefront windows, conversing and occasionally gesturing to signage just on the other side of the glass. This may not seem like an unusual occurrence, but the Cimarron Plaza is now a vast, nearly empty strip-mall, its huge unkempt parking lot a reminder of its former vitality but symptomatic of its current decline. The students were not there to shop. They were there to see an exhibition of their own work, projects that researched the social, cultural, and economic forces embedded in the Cimarron Plaza site but often not readily apparent to passersby.

Spanning five different retail units across three locations in the shopping plaza, the students' work explored possibilities, not solutions, for this strip mall. As such, the projects showcased in the exhibition did not seek to return Cimarron Plaza to its former glory, but rather to accept it as it currently is. These architectural speculations used Cimarron Plaza as an open framework for considering issues related to fundamental aspects of architecture—SITE, SPACE, SKIN+STRUCTURE—within a complex backdrop of global capitalism, commodity culture, and small-town urbanism.

The exhibition itself became an intervention within this condition; a temporal occupation of the site, marking a new but equally fleeting moment in Cimarron Plaza's history. The cultural projects presented replaced former products and services, providing a window shopping experience that allowed visitors to consume architecture as a series of images while allowing for safety within a global pandemic. And, like the transient businesses of the Cimarron Plaza, the exhibition was there for a short time span and then started to fade away, leaving few traces behind in the storefront windows.

◀ The inflatable tube man greets visitors to Cimarron Plaza.

► Following Pages: (L) Skin + Structure proposal by Carson Voelker; (R) Students review their work displayed in the unoccupied storefronts of Cimarron Plaza

NEWS

School News

The School of Architecture typically invites from four to six distinguished guests each semester to present their work and ideas to the student body as part of the Guest Lecture Series. With formal gatherings mostly prohibited this academic year, all events migrated to Zoom. The silver lining was that anyone could join the Zoom - from alumni to the general public. Each lecture was attended by 30 to 60 students and other guests via this digital format.

The spring series included: Rand Elliott, FAIA of OKC; Adjunct Professor at OSU Adam Lanman; Brian MacKay-Lyons, FAIA, FRCA of Canada; Dan Wheeler, FAIA of Chicago; and Professor Albert Pope of Rice University. Three additional events were co-sponsored with our new NOMAS student organization: a presentation by Viviano Villarreal of MASS Operations in Mexico; a "NOMA at 50" panel with four NOMA members in the Dallas area; and "Seven Things I would Tell my Younger Self" with Courtney Taylor and Lawrence Agu III.

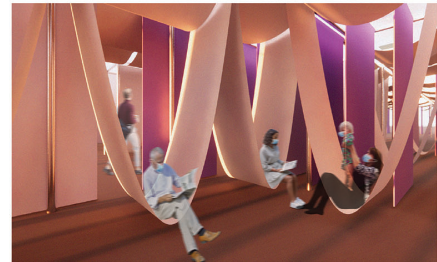
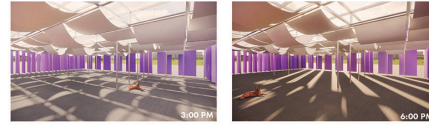
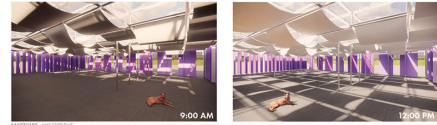
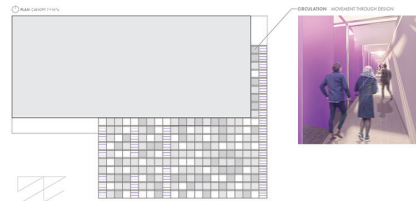
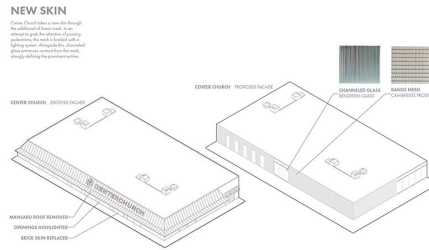
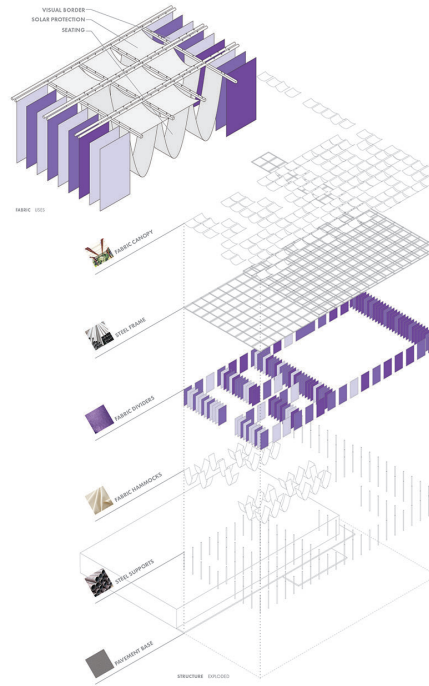
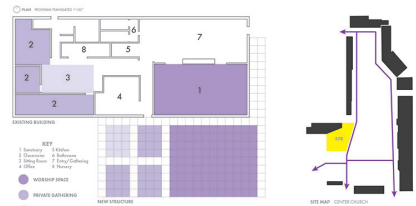
The annual AIAS Career Fair was held virtually on February 16th, with more than 30 firms

attending in discussion rooms where they shared info about their firm and learned about what students at OSU have been working on. Many students secured internships, which we are relieved to note.

In the Spring 2021 semester there were several sponsored student design competitions in the second, fourth, and fifth year studios. We thank Briar and Patrick Glenn for helping us recognize outstanding work in the second year studio! The Comprehensive Design Studio had multiple concurrent competitions: the AIA/NCARB Prize for the outstanding work by fourth year architecture students, the Illuminating Engineering Society prize, and a new Sustainability Prize. Fifth year AEs competed for the OSEA Prize, with funding supplemented by FSB, LA Fuess, Alpha Consulting, Wallace, and KFC engineering firms. Finally, as noted previously, the client in South Africa for the Comprehensive Studio wanted to recognize work that was particularly sensitive to the local community, with a Mzansi Award. These design competition sponsorships help us promote the competitive spirit at OSU. THANK YOU to our sponsors!

OUTDOOR SANCTUARY STUDIO III PROJECT III CARSON VOELKER

Space in the dramatic can allows for climatic spaces and atmospheres to be created through its ability to diffuse light out views. Views of fabric falling from the canopy structure above act as decorative screens by creating pinpoints of space for gathering and circulation, while also obscuring direct views into adjacent rooms. The views of fabric also connect to the regenerative religious practice of Reg-walking, a common practice seen at a typical Center Church service. The direct connection of the temporary structure with local practices attempts to create a direct connection to the church's congregation. Fabric reacts to an array of activities at Columbus Plaza, with the canopy structure above blocking direct rays of light, fabric divides blocking unpleasant views of the nearby parking lot, as well as muffling the noise of nearby traffic. The use of fabric allows for an intimate religious experience to occur, creating a socially distanced spiritual oasis.



◀ Adam Lanman's exhibit "Field Notes" illustrating his design build work



WALKING ON WATER

Paolo Sanza Associate Professor of Architecture

This collaboration between Professor Sanza, his students, and artists Marguerite Perret, Robin Lasser, and Bruce Scherting commenced in 2017 in support of the artists' interactive arts-based research project entitled "The State We're In: Water" exhibited at the Oklahoma State University Museum of Art from August 2020 to May 2021. In spring and fall 2019, Professor Sanza's third-year design studios were charged to design a water-viewing structure, boardwalk, or environment, capable of augmenting the viewer's immersion into the multimedia exhibition without, however, calling attention to itself.

Following the artists' selection of one of the student teams' proposals, the chosen design was going to be built as part of the design-build constituent of the spring 2020 third year studio. By March, however, the spreading COVID-19 pandemic forced the University to close and continue instruction online, halting, consequently, the construction of the boardwalk. Simultaneously, the pandemic affected students' planned summer internships. Professor Sanza volunteered to continue building the boardwalk during the summer, albeit at a reduced scope. With funding from the School of Architecture and generous support from the museum, Professor Sanza was able to hire three students to help with the fabrication process. Under Professor Sanza's supervision, the students' engagement with the project qualified for AXP credits via this collaboration providing productive summer work experiences for them. Work in the shop continued fervently into the fall. The apparent simplicity of the design hid a few construction challenges - over 500 CNC-ready drawings were produced for the project, in part to reduce waste to a minimum, echoing the diverse dimensions of the Sapele hardwood boards.



▲ The installation in progress, and completed

▶ Fourth year student Addison Hellier prepares pieces of the boardwalk

*Treat others with kindness, but also treat yourself with kindness;
Support yourself, motivate yourself, speak highly of yourself;
Don't call them dreams, call them plans.*



TO OUR HEALTH

Not surprisingly, the ongoing pandemic has not only impacted the physical health of our nation's population, but also the mental health. This is nowhere more true than at the university among our students, faculty, and staff. To address this issue, the university issued a series of "Wellness Days" over the course of the semester, one day off midweek per month of the Spring semester, in lieu of an actual week of Spring Break. Faculty were not allowed to schedule class meetings on those wellness days, nor were exams allowed to be scheduled on the day immediately following a wellness day. We were all encouraged to simply take a moment to breathe.

Everyone knows that Architecture school is stressful (as is our profession!), but the added layers of masking, distancing, and digital learning has not gone without some impact on the collective psyche. At the School of Architecture, our staff offered Emergen-C and clementine oranges during the February Wellness Day as a pick-me-up and hopeful attempt to bolster our collective immune systems. In March, for Wellness Day we offered an array of mint candies for "encourage-mint" (see what we did there?). And in April, our Wellness Day give-away was a small bag of pretzels with the message "Don't get twisted, you can do it!". Though a small thing, the students appreciated the extra care that our staff provided.

Several students took matters a step further and developed a display of helpful advice and tips for managing the stress of being a student during these times. The displays offered suggestions for improving student's physical and mental state, further proof that the community at the School of Architecture is dedicated to supporting one another! Notes fourth year students Anatalia Lopez and Diana Anda, "Our goal was to make sure our students felt seen and became aware of the resources that are available to every student at OSU. Mental health issues are more common than we think and we wanted to remind our classmates that it is okay to not be okay, but that ultimately there are resources to help and the feelings do not need to be permanent. We wanted to create this positive reminder to help uplift the students of our school. It was really encouraging to see students reading the information provided and having conversations with their peers about the different issues presented in the display."

► Fourth year student Anatalia Lopez prepares a display offering tips and techniques for mental and physical well-being





"The Orlando West Fire Station project opened my eyes to a unique community experience much different than my own in Oklahoma. It was very interesting to work alongside architects and clients from the Johannesburg area as we developed concepts that tried to reflect aspects of their community life. I am so grateful that I was able to consider how my design might address the needs and concerns of people in a place so different from my own environment." - Wes Kinsey



BACK TO SCHOOL

Awilda Rodriguez-Carrion Associate Professor of Architecture

For her sabbatical leave this past academic year, Associate Professor Rodriguez-Carrion was awarded the William Wayne Caudill Graduate Student Research Fellowship with Texas A&M University. While there, she dedicated herself to retooling her knowledge in new and emerging computer technologies and putting in place collaborations with researchers at the TAMU BIM SIM LAB in topics related to augmented reality (AR) and building information modeling (BIM). The opportunity to carry out scholarship and collaborative research on AR as an emerging technology in BIM will further support her teaching once she returns to OSU. As Awilda teaches the required Design Communications II course focused on BIM, these studies are particularly relevant. In studio, she had already begun integrating VR technology into the design process - a few years ago, the fourth year studio she coordinated utilized it in their design work for a soccer stadium. Student work from that studio won Third Place and an Honorable Mention in the 2019 ACSA Steel Competition.

While on sabbatical, Awilda was afforded the opportunity to teach at Texas A&M as part of her fellowship. She taught a fourth-year studio online. The studio delved into climate change topics through the investigation of two diverse housing typologies in Puerto Rico. The first project was an urban infill located in the metropolitan zone of San Juan. For this zero lot line site students were asked to design a small mixed-used structure including a residence, Airbnb, and some small business incubator spaces. This is a complex architecture problem commonly addressed in many cities experiencing fast growth and constant rezoning of the fringe areas. The second housing exercise explored the future of existing housing developments in the marine-terrestrial zone on the southern coast of the island. This project addressed the challenges and opportunities that the future of an existing amphibious housing community may confront and the problems of coastal gentrification and displacement occurring in the coastal areas of Puerto Rico.

Upon returning to OSU, Rodriguez-Carrion will continue her doctoral studies with Texas A&M, fitting in online coursework whenever possible. For now, she's officially a professor and a student.

► Associate Professor Rodriguez-Carrion in College Station, TX

MZANSI

Tom Spector Professor of Architecture
Zach Elliott Fourth Year Architecture Student

Though South African apartheid was overcome almost thirty years ago, the effects of systemic discrimination and government corruption have continued into the present as hundreds of thousands of people live in informal settlements, unplanned and unincorporated areas of the city that do not comply with local planning and building regulations. The territory covered by informal settlements brings its own unique issues regarding the health and well-being of these communities, especially when it comes to the spread of deadly fires. Makeshift houses made of corrugated metal, wood, and plastic are packed together with no running water, haphazard electric lines at overcapacity, and open containers of gasoline that power many of the inhabitants' stoves. Combine these fire hazards with community mistrust of local fire responders from days' past and the inability for responders to reach the jungle-like conglomeration of metal shacks, and you have a dangerous risk of unstoppable fire spread. Every year fires destroy parts of the informal settlements, killing hundreds and sometimes thousands of people and displacing thousands more.

To consider these issues, the Comprehensive Design Studio took on a project to design a new fire station for the area of Orlando West in Soweto, a township of Johannesburg. The needs of the fire station were two-fold: first, to reduce the ignition and spread of fires by not only responding to fires after they are started, but also by teaching fire safety within the community, and second, to cultivate a collaborative relationship between fire responders and informal settlement inhabitants. This was no easy task, however. A fire station that can achieve these goals needed a design which was highly efficient and functional, responsive to needs both within the fire station itself but also the settlements at large, and most importantly, welcoming to the community it plans to serve. For both guidance and feedback as the semester progressed, the studio was grateful for the enthusiastic participation of Soweto fire chief Jocelyn Flank. Mr. Flank provided both recorded presentations and live interaction throughout the semester despite the seven-hour time difference. Jocelyn was so impressed with the student work that he wanted to honor student projects with a *Mzansi Award* - for those projects that seemed to best understand and reflect the culture and needs of the "People of the South." It was a truly unique opportunity for students.

◀ Student Wes Kinsey's proposal for the West Orlando Fire Station in South Africa

DEVELOPING PROFESSIONALS

The School of Architecture exists to prepare young people to enter the profession as future architects and architectural engineers. The current degree plans consist of over 150 credit hours of coursework, which includes the design studios and classes in structures, environmental controls, history, etc. We all lived this plan of study during our path through OSU Architecture, so we understand it.

In our most recent curriculum review, the faculty decided that students would benefit from understanding more about the workplace and their role in the internship process... before graduation. Thus ARCH 4991 Professional Development for Architects and Architectural Engineers, a one credit hour enrichment course, was conceived. Professor Suzanne Bilbeisi had already been developing such a course, previously delivered in the summers of 2017 and 2018 as an ARCH Elective for students currently working during an internship. That course asked students to evaluate their summer experience while interning with a firm. The newest iteration of the course is taken during the spring semester of a student's fourth year.

This spring, fifteen students enrolled in the new course. The topics included: AXP/ARE Process to Licensure, Personal Values and Career Goals, Portfolio and Branding Development, Interview Skills, Image



▲ The course poster and all assignment sheets highlighted the office environments of professional firms where OSU graduates work; shown here is the course poster with DLR (Chicago) office

WHAT'S GOOD?

Architecture and the Public Good

by Tom Spector, Anthem Press, 2021

Dr. Spector's new book is a logical progression from his first book on architectural ethics published in 2001. In that book, *The Ethical Architect*, he took the point of view of the individual faced with design decisions that often placed the architect in an ethical quandary over the best course of action. In this book, he has broadened his approach to examine how we ethically justify the architecture profession's role in society. Starting with the commonsense idea that a profession's protections are justified in the net public good they create introduces the interesting problems that arise when trying to define "the public" and assert something substantive about its "good." If the bland definition of the public is everyone, then it is far from clear that everyone wants the same thing, or they do so only at a very low common denominator. As a result, what we usually see asserted about public protections by our professional organizations is all-too-often either vague or unsupported.

Fortunately, the German sociologist and philosopher Jürgen Habermas provides a strong theoretical background on the topic of the public from which Dr. Spector derives the backbone of his discussion. This new book begins with a look at the internal divisions within our profession which impair its ability to strongly state what it stands for. It then discusses the profession's evolving position in a globalizing economy. After proposing a renewed concept of the public in the third chapter, it addresses the shifting sands between the public and private realms in the fourth, before proposing some measures in the final chapter for improving the profession's ability to better serve the public.

This project has been more than a decade in the making, and it spanned two sabbaticals. The first was in 2010 at Cambridge University where Dr. Spector started his research on the topics of the public and its good as it applies to the architecture profession, and where he first started airing these ideas in public presentations. For the second sabbatical, in 2018, Dr. Spector was a visiting scholar at Columbia University where he was able to turn the ideas he had been working on in the intervening years into a coherent manuscript. Writing a book is indeed a time-consuming endeavor!

◀ Book jacket for Dr. Spector's new book; it will be available in June 2021 from Anthem Press



Architecture and the Public Good

by Tom Spector

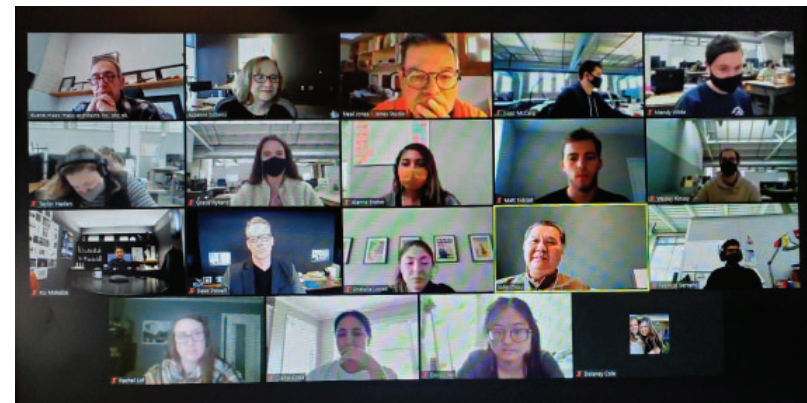


.688
17.47mm

6.00 x 9.00
229 mm x 152 mm
Content Type: Black & White
Paper Type: Creme
Page Count: 254
File Type: InDesignIDML
Request ID: CSS3217805

and Professional Etiquette, Intern Expectations, Salary Negotiation, Firm Culture, Concepts in Leadership, Leadership Styles, and Alternative Careers/Advanced Education. Each week of the course the students met in person on Tuesdays for an information session, and then on Thursday alumni joined the class via Zoom as a "Panel of Professionals". Over the ten week course, forty-five alumni interacted with the students. Alumni representing graduating classes from the 1970's through 2018 contributed to the course, and were invited depending upon the topic under discussion. Before the Zoom session, students submitted questions on that week's topic which helped guide the discussions.

Uniformly, the students appreciated getting to hear directly from alumni in the field. "The guest panels were great for helping me develop realistic expectations and I appreciated the age/experience spectrum of the alumni participants" noted one student. Another student remarked that the interview session that included the elevator pitch (the students had to record a 1 minute introduction of themselves!), and the offer negotiation session were two topics that he was able to apply immediately to his job search. On the other side, alumni also felt the satisfaction of contributing to learning about things they themselves hadn't learned while in school!



▲ Alumni Duane Mass (B Arch 89) in OKC, Neal Jones (BS 77) in Phoenix, Ko Makabe (B Arch 97) in NYC, David Powell (B Arch 91) in Nashville, and John Chau (B Arch 89) in Seattle populated the panel discussing Leadership Styles (it was kind of a rowdy panel) - the good news is that the limitations of geographic location no longer exist!

ADVANCED STUDIES

Tom Spector Professor of Architecture

Are exterior or interior louver systems better for reducing a building's carbon footprint? Do measures of embodied carbon adequately capture the importance of material lifespan when making roofing choices? How important is the choice of structure to a building's overall carbon impact? Does the output from the various commercially available Lifecycle Carbon Assessment programs differ enough from each other to influence design decisions? If a material saves building operating energy, does that mean it is good for the environment?

These are questions addressed and answered by students completing their independent study in the School of Architecture's Graduate Certificate program in the Interdisciplinary Design of the Building Envelope. Most of these advanced studies have been turned into conference presentations or publishable research by the students and the faculty members—Khaled Mansy, John Phillips, Jeanne Homer and Tom Spector—guiding the student work to date. Now finishing its third year, the 12 credit-hour certificate program has reached a sustaining level of interest amongst professional school students wanting to add distinction to their resume, or perhaps get a taste of what graduate school would be like, or who want to pursue an abiding question they have had about some aspect of the building envelope. The Graduate Certificate is open to alumni as well - for more information about the graduate certificate, including how to apply to the program, go to <https://ceat.okstate.edu/arch/graduate-certificate.html> or email Jeanne.Homer@okstate.edu!

And, by the way, the answers are:

- *There's not much difference, so might as well use internal louvers which are lighter and make it easier to clean the windows*
- *They do not. Material lifespan can lead to some surprising conclusions about choices between roofing materials*
- *It's crucial. The amount of concrete in a building is the single largest determinant of its carbon footprint*
- *The different programs don't provide conflicting information. But some are more useful early in the design process than those which require a great deal of precise information.*
- *Not necessarily—especially if that material is aluminum.*



"I would not be where I am today without the impactful experience of my time at OSU Architecture. The professors, classmates, and reputation of the program completely shaped my vision about architecture and my work ethic to focus on excellence in design. It's truly a part of who we are and it is humbling to know our legacy will remain forever as a part of the School of Architecture!" - Patrick Glenn, AIA

ANNIVERSARY GIFT

Patrick Glenn (B Arch 96) remembers fondly the first day he arrived at the School of Architecture, full of hopes and dreams to change the world. His path through the program was a familiar one, working hard and staying late when needed to get the work completed to his own level of satisfaction while hopefully satisfying the faculty's demands. He graduated and started his career in Dallas, where he later met Briar Hannah (B Arch 02) who was working in the same firm. They had never met in college, but felt an immediate bond sharing OSU Architecture memories frequently. In 2014 they founded Glenn Partners, and have grown their firm to a staff of 23 including several other OSU grads. Their practice is dedicated to creating innovative educational facilities unique for each client, and they have enjoyed success with several award winning projects (glenn-partners.com).

As the 25th anniversary of Patrick's graduation approached, he felt compelled to note the occasion with a gift to the School of Architecture - an endowment that would help foster the competitive spirit and quest for design excellence within the architecture design studios. With an initial gift of \$25,000 (to commemorate the 25th anniversary), he and Briar established the Glenn Fund for the School of Architecture. This fund provides for studio prizes in an annual competition recognizing outstanding student work for educational facility designs. While the fund grows through investment, the Glenns have pledged to annually add to the prize money afforded to the student winners, so that the prizes are impactful. In a few years they will consider adding another gift to their fund to commemorate Briar's 25th anniversary since graduation as well.

At the same time, Patrick and Briar started to consider what kind of larger legacy they might provide for students at the School of Architecture. For the Glenns, making plans for a future estate gift seemed a natural way to assist others on their path to the profession. Notes Briar, "Our passion for architecture was fostered at OSU during design charrettes, beaux-arts balls, and movie nights on the Plaza. I'm grateful to those who came before me because without their generous spirit, I would not have been able to afford tuition or travel abroad. We hope our estate gift will provide opportunities for students and faculty for generations to come. Our goal is to support and strengthen the future of the OSU School of Architecture."

▶ Briar and Patrick Glenn, with office dog Roxie, in front of Glenn Partners Office in Dallas



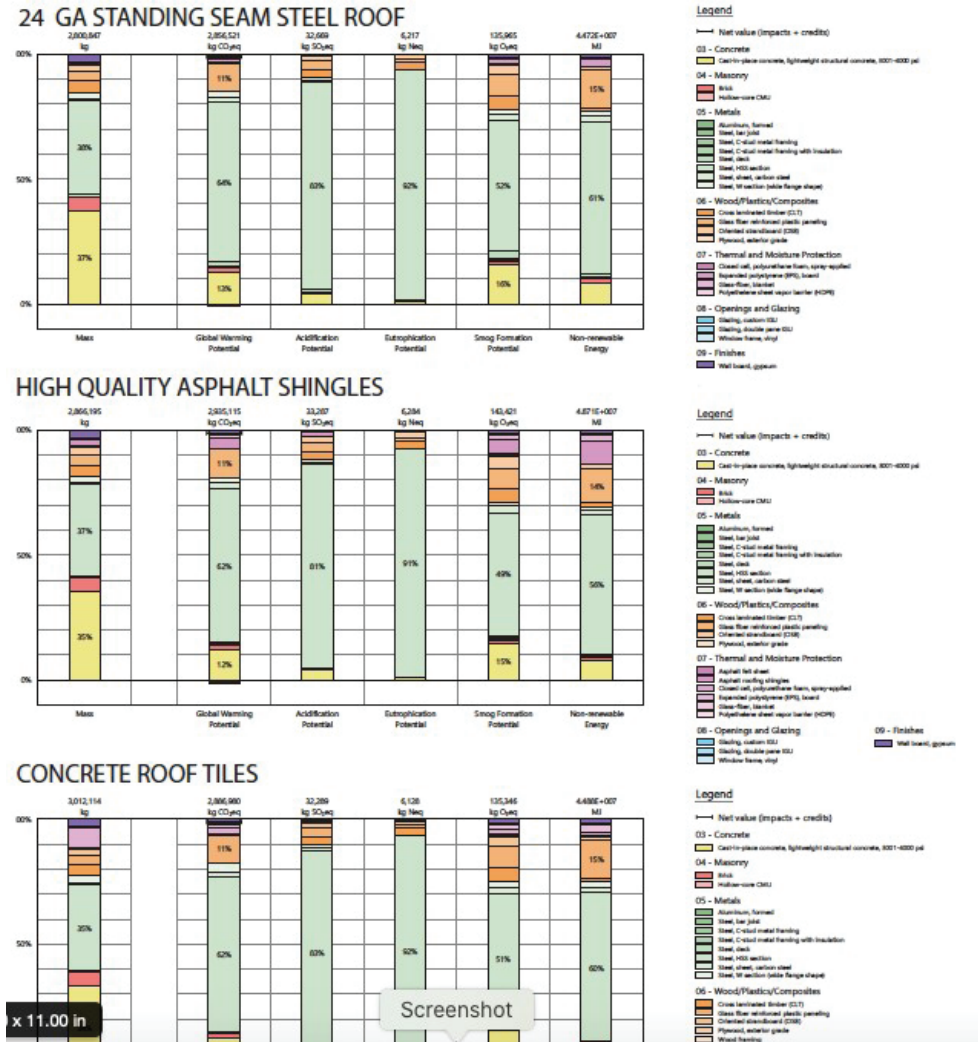
Variant 1: Timber

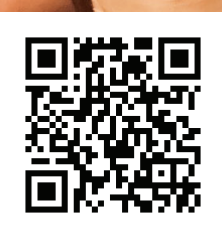
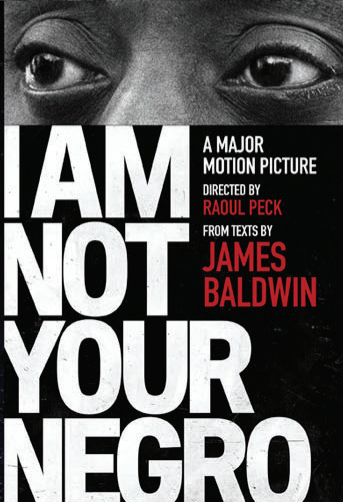
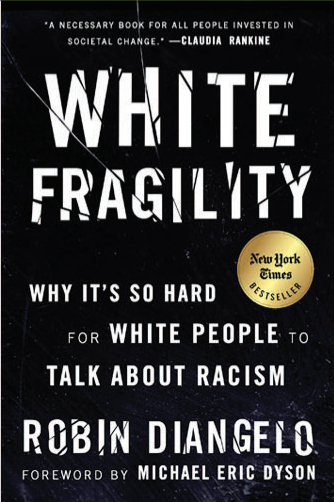
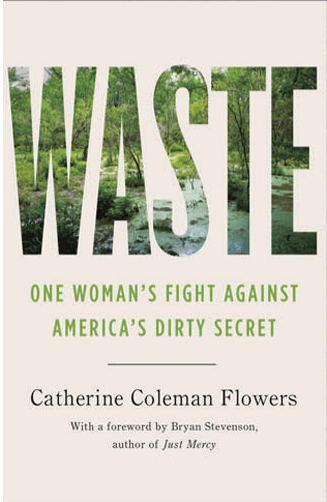
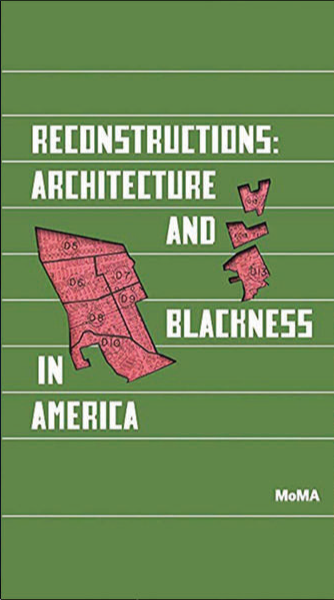
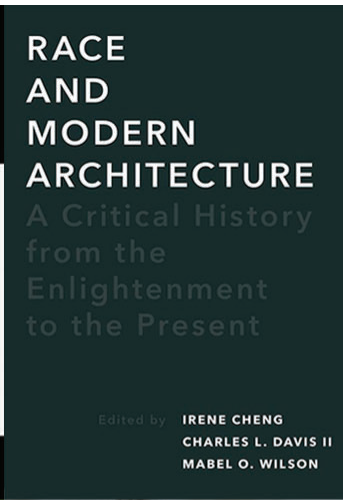
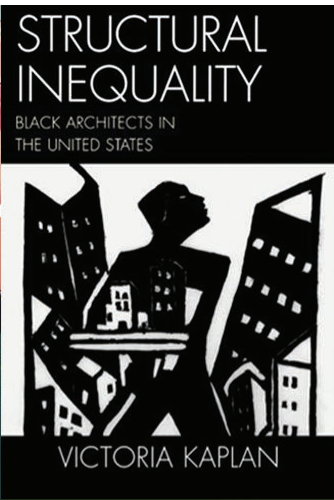
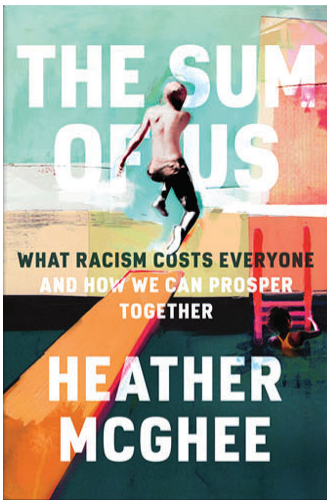
Variant 2: Steel

Variant 3: Concrete

Figure 1: Revit Models for Variants 1 (Timber), 2 (Steel), and 3 (Concrete) used in the Analysis

- ▲ Will Crawford analyzed envelope performance of the his design employing different structural systems
- ▼ Melissa Russell studied the environmental performance of varying roof assemblies for her building design





Please give! Provide Summer 2022 travel abroad scholarships through the Alumni Fund for Travel/ Study Programs; follow the QR code and type "Cash Balance" in the comments so that your gift can make an immediate impact. Thank you!

CAN-DO GIVING

Alumnus Larry Kester (B Arch 1968) has a can-do attitude that has served him well his entire life. While in high school in Ponca City he worked five jobs, and continued to work throughout college in several tough service-industry jobs. Larry's mantra is to focus on what you can accomplish; with the right attitude, you can do anything.

In 1980 he established his own firm in Tulsa, The Architect's Collective. Larry's hard work and business acumen have formed the foundation of his professional success. In 1997, he decided to direct his can-do attitude toward helping other students in the pipeline. Larry and his wife Linda established an endowment for a scholarship supporting students and the advanced use of computer applications. Over the years they added to that scholarship fund, but also realized they would like to support the student experience in the study abroad program offered by the School of Architecture. As a student, Larry recalls that traveling abroad was never even an option for him due to the barrier of cost. But later in life, the Kesters had the opportunity to travel internationally, and they understood the tremendous impact that experiencing other cultures can impart upon a traveler abroad. Their first move was to assist the school's study abroad program by sponsoring a shared meal for the group. Because of their own experiences, Larry and Linda knew the power of gathering around a table and talking while enjoying the best local foods. They wanted to provide this kind of unique experience for the students, without the students having to worry about the cost of the special meal. The Kester's gifts created many such memorable events, impacting the study abroad experience for hundreds of students!

More recently, Larry decided he wanted to get more serious about supporting student's studies abroad. His goal was to encourage and engage other alumni to contribute whatever they could to a group fund that would be used for student travel support. From this initial idea the **Alumni Fund for Travel/Study Programs** was born. Larry established the fund with the first gift of \$25,000 in 2019. Cards and letters were mailed to past participants of the school's Study Abroad programs, and just as Larry had hoped, others did feel compelled to support this effort. To date, alumni have nearly tripled Larry's initial gift! If you would like to add your support, email our OSUF liaison Jill Johnson (jjohnson@osugiving.com) for information!

► The 2019 group's Michelin star dim sum dinner in Hong Kong, sponsored by the Kesters

A READING CLUB

Tom Spector Professor of Architecture

Keith Peiffer Assistant Professor of Architecture

Last Fall, Professors Spector and Peiffer engaged students and faculty in a Zoom book club, organized to promote a greater understanding of the issues surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion in architecture. A couple weeks ago, the DEI book club concluded a year of reading and discussions.

Fourth year student Mandy White observed, "Over the past few years I have come to realize that my previous education on many issues was incomplete. I joined the DEI Book Club, attempting to repair and piece together a history that I had not been made aware of. Throughout my time in book club, I have been given the opportunity to see the world through many diverse perspectives. Many of the discussions included topics I was aware of but did not know where to start in terms of information and literature. Through book club, I was given a place to start and others to learn with. The discussions simultaneously served to inform me of issues that should be addressed while remembering to celebrate and empower the present community. This semester focused mainly on racial disparities and their connection to architecture, but as we move forward, I hope to build further awareness of challenges in connection to the built environment faced by the Disability Rights Movement and LGBTQIA+ communities."

The group made it a point to consider past, present, and future implications of the subject matter. Through reading historical accounts highlighting the interplay between race and the built environment, the book club focused on recent scholarship that provides a fuller picture of social and political factors resulting in the architecture and urbanism that we encounter today. They also discussed creative work by Black poets and architects that is speculative and projective, offering possibilities for the future. Through encountering this work, many of the participants expanded their social media networks to include more diverse perspectives.

The book club offered an opportunity for faculty and students to learn together and understand the work needed to realize substantial change in increasing equity in our discipline. The group plans to expand its reach and resume these extracurricular studies in the Fall.

◄ A collage of book titles from readings discussed over this academic year



DESIGN WEEK 2021



Although we had to forego the annual Pig Roast, we managed to pull together a week of exciting events around the theme of “Unplug and Recharge” for all to enjoy. Guest Lecture events were virtual, while other events were conducted in-person such as the annual Talent Show with live music (pictured here). Every day of the week there were individually wrapped treats and class vs. class activities, lifting spirits as much as possible. Friday of Design week was actually Good Friday; the faculty worked together to cancel all ARCH classes for that day - unheard of! We made the best of things, as usual.